

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 12, 13 and 16, without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter.

Please amend claims 1-11, 14, 15, 17 and 18 and add Claims 19-21 to read as follows. A marked-up version showing the changes made hereto is attached.

1. (Amended) A positioning system for dental x-ray examinations, comprising:

an electronic image sensor;

a sheath covering the electronic image sensor; and

a holder removably bonded to the sheath by an adhesive.

2. (Amended) The positioning system as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the electronic image sensor comprises a charge-coupled device.

3. (Amended) The positioning system as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the electronic image sensor comprises a CMOS active pixel sensor array.

4. (Amended) The positioning system as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the holder is bonded to the sheath at any point along a surface of the electronic image sensor.

5. (Amended) The positioning system as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the sheath is a material selected from the group consisting of paper, cotton, sponge, rubber, plastic, latex, and nylon.

6. (Amended) The positioning system as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the adhesive is selected from the group consisting of tape, epoxy, hot melt, and sealant.

7. (Amended) A method for positioning an electronic dental image sensor comprising the steps of:

placing the electronic sensor in a sheath;

affixing a holder having an adhesive coating to the sheath to create a removable bond between the holder and the sheath;

positioning the holder and the electronic sensor within the mouth of patient;

capturing at least one dental image; and

removing the holder from the sheath following the capture of the at least one dental image.

8. (Amended) The method as set forth in Claim 7, wherein the holder is bonded to the sheath at any point along a surface of the electronic image sensor.

9. (Amended) The method as set forth in Claim 7, wherein the sheath is a material selected from the group consisting of paper, cotton, sponge, rubber, plastic, latex, and nylon.

10. (Amended) The method as set forth in Claim 7, wherein the adhesive is selected from the group consisting of tape, epoxy, hot melt, and sealant.

11. (Amended) A positioning system for dental x-ray examinations,
comprising:
an electronic image sensor; and
a holder removably bonded to the electronic image sensor by an
adhesive coating.

14. (Amended) The dental positioning system as set forth in Claim
11, wherein the electronic image sensor comprises a CMOS active pixel sensor array.

15. (Amended) The dental positioning system as set forth in Claim
11, wherein the electronic image sensor comprises a charge-coupled device.

17. (Amended) The dental positioning system as set forth in Claim
11, wherein the adhesive is selected from the group consisting of tape, epoxy, hot melt,
and sealant.

18. (Amended) A method for positioning an electronic dental image
sensor, comprising steps of:

affixing a holder having an adhesive coating to the electronic
image sensor to create a removable bond between the holder and the electronic image
sensor;

positioning the holder and the electronic image sensor within the
mouth of a patient;

capturing at least one dental image; and